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SUMMARY OF COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
(March 22 - April 21, 1982)

May 1982

Prepared by the Federal Research Division of
the Library of Congress under an interagency agreement

Analyst: Gerald Cady

PREFACE

This monthly survey compiles articles on sub-Saharan Africa which appear in Pravda. It has been prepared since April 1980. Pravda is the official newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Items published are presumably authoritative. Articles dealing with Soviet political, military, or economic interests in Africa are entirely translated or extensively excerpted or summarized. News accounts which heavily rely on news services of other countries are simply noted. All entries have been arranged chronologically under general African or country headings. FBIS translations are summarized or annotated for reader reference; duplication is avoided.

Summary of Commentary In Pravda on Sub-Saharan Africa
(22 March-21 April 1982)*

Africa General

Regional Cooperation

(Excerpt) Representatives from 16 independent states in East and southern Africa are taking part in a 4-year program of cooperation in the fields of agriculture, industry, trade, and the utilization of human and natural resources. Participants met this week in Lusaka to work out plans for a number of cooperative ventures including a metallurgy complex and fertilizer plant. (29 Mar 82, p. 5)

Soviet Interest in Africa

Humanitarian Assistance

(Excerpt) The Soviet Red Cross, motivated by feelings of humanism and international solidarity, has decided to extend free assistance to three African countries, the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, the Republic of Cape Verde Islands, and the Republic of Senegal. (17 Apr 82, p. 4)

United States Interests in Africa

American Support for RSA Aggression

(Summary) The Republic of South Africa (RSA) has undertaken another military strike against the sovereign territory of Angola. And from the public account given by the Angolan Ambassador in Paris, it is obvious that this raid will be on the same mass scale as other violations committed by the RSA over the past 6 years. Yet, what is particularly dangerous about the aggressive designs of the RSA is its open military partnership with the United States. It is known, as the newspaper Cape Times has indicated, that the armed forces of these two countries have undertaken joint research and development of several new types of weapons. (22 Mar 82, p. 5)

Angola

Goal of National Reconstruction

(Excerpt) Angolan President E. dos Santos, in a meeting with Portugal's President in Luanda, stated Angola had chosen a path that would build a socialist society free from the past and that would raise the standard of living of the Angolan people. (19 Apr 82, p. 5)

*Not including editions of 26, 27, 28, 30, and 31 March.

Diamond Industry

[An overview of Angola's diamond industry, particularly the example it provides for the training of qualified specialists for the national exploitation of natural resources. (12 Apr 82, p. 6).]

Celebrating Lenin's Birthday

(Summary) On a corner of Lenin Street in Luanda a bronze bas-relief was unveiled in commemoration of Lenin's birth. In two languages was written: "The great teacher and leader of the proletarian revolution and founder of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union--the world's first socialist government of workers and peasants." (20 Apr 82, p. 1)

Cape Verde

New Ambassador

(Excerpt) Fernand Ferreira Fortis, the extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador of the Republic of the Cape Verde Islands, presented his credentials on 13 April to I. E. Polyakov, Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, during ceremonies at the Kremlin. (14 Apr 81, p. 4)

Humanitarian Aid

[See entry under Soviet Interest in Africa.]

Ethiopia

Book Exhibition

(Excerpt) A joint Soviet-Ethiopian book fair opened in Addis Ababa offering the classics of Marxism-Leninism and socio-political and scientific-technical works in Amharic, English, and Russian. (22 Mar 82, p. 1)

Development Seminar in Eritrea

(Excerpt) An all national seminar devoted to examining questions involving the management of the economy and the activities of state organs took place in Asmara. Daut Volde-Giorgis, representative from Eritrea to the Commission for the Organization of a Party of Workers in Ethiopia (COPWE), called for the application of socialist principles of management in the field of production and in other areas of the state's apparatus, and to open up the path to these for the direct participation of the mass of workers. (1 Apr 82, p. 5)

National Holiday Greetings

(Summary) L. Brezhnev and N. Tikhonov sent a message of greetings to Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, on the occasion of Ethiopia's national holiday, Victory Day. (6 Apr 82, p. 1)

Book Exhibit Honoring Lenin

(Excerpt) A book exhibit, honoring the 112th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth, opened at the University of Addis Ababa. Also on display at the book stands were the works of K. Marx, F. Engels, and L. Brezhnev. (11 Apr 82, p. 4)

Campaign Against Illiteracy

(Excerpt) Since 1979, when the campaign to liquidate illiteracy in Ethiopia began, the rate of illiteracy among the population has fallen from 93 to 55 percent. These figures were announced by the Minister of Education at a national conference where future stages of the campaign were outlined. (12 Apr 82, p. 1)

Publishing Accord

(Excerpt) In Addis Ababa the State Publishing Committee of the USSR and the Ethiopian Government publishing house Kuraz (Light) signed an agreement designed to promote the sharing of experiences in various fields of book publishing. (16 Apr 82, p. 5)

Transportation Problems

(Excerpt) There exists only one railway line in Ethiopia, therefore the basic link of the nation's transport system is provided by trucks. The National Transport Corporation has almost 2,500 trucks. In the future this number will increase and relieve the rural transportation problems. (18 Apr 82, p. 5)

State Control of Trade

(Excerpt) The Government of Ethiopia controls 70 percent of exports and 84 percent of the nation's imports. The overall growth in the state's leading position regarding trade has been accompanied by a rise in the trade turnover itself by one and a half times. (20 Apr 82, p. 1)

Ghana

Reexamination of Unequal Treaties

(Excerpt) The Government of Ghana announced that it intends to reexamine all unequal treaties concluded by the previous regime with international monopolies. (24 Mar 82, p. 1)

Government Delegation to Moscow

(Excerpt) A government delegation from the Republic of Ghana headed by C. Atim, member of the Provisional National Defense Council, arrived in Moscow on 25 March for a friendly visit. (26 Mar 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #064, 2 Apr 82, p. J1)

Ghanaian Delegation in Moscow

(Excerpt) A government delegation of the Republic of Ghana, led by member of the Provisional National Defense Council C. Atim, arrived in the USSR on 25 March. During the course of the visits talks, held in a friendly atmosphere, were held that covered the state and prospects for the development of relations between the USSR and Ghana. On 23 March the delegation departed the Soviet Union. (29 Mar 82, p. 4)

Independence Day Greetings

(Summary) L. Brezhnev sent a telegram to Capt. J. Rawlings, Chairman of the Provisional National Defense Council, conveying the warmest congratulations to him and the people of Ghana on the occasion of the country's national holiday, the 25th Anniversary of Independence. (6 Apr 82, p. 2)

Madagascar

Economic Agreement

(Excerpt) Talks with a delegation from the Democratic Republic of Madagascar headed by Minister of Industry and Commerce G. Golofoson ended at the Ministry of Foreign Trade in Moscow on 24 March. In addition to the signing of agreements to help Madagascar overcome problems caused by a flood disaster, a protocol was signed for further development of economic and technical cooperation in the spheres of industry and geology. (25 Mar 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #067, 7 Apr 82, p. J4)

Soviet Educational Exhibition

(Excerpt) An exhibit of books, photographs, and posters depicting 60 years of education in the USSR opened in the city of Tuléar in south-west Madagascar. (9 Apr 82, p. 1)

Humanitarian Aid

[See entry under Soviet Interest in Africa.]

Mauritania

Brezhnev Message

(Excerpt) L. I. Brezhnev received a telegram conveying warm regards from Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydalla, Chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, who was flying over the territory of the Soviet Union. (20 Apr 82, p. 2)

Mozambique

Brezhnev Message

(Excerpt) On the 5th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and Mozambique, I [L. I. Brezhnev] send cordial congratulations to you, Comrade Machel, to the Front for the Liberation of Mozambique (FRELIMO), to the People's Assembly, to the Government of Mozambique, and to the friendly Mozambican people. (31 Mar 82, p. 1, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #070, 12 Apr 82, p. J4)

Cooperation Agreement Signed

(Excerpt) On 6 April in Moscow the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Mozambique signed a protocol for the development of economic and technical co-operation. (7 Apr 82, p. 4)

Namibia

West's Delaying Tactics

(Excerpt) The Western "Contact Group" (the United States, Great Britain, West Germany, France, and Canada) have presented the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) and South Africa with new constitutional proposals. However, the proposals, which are still complex and unwieldy ideas about voting mechanisms, while outwardly creating the semblance of a free expression of will for the Namibian people in fact facilitates South Africa's penetration of the organs of power of an independent Namibia. By delaying Namibia's attainment of independence, the West is assuming responsibility for the country's continuing occupation by South Africa. (17 Apr 82, p. 5, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #081, 27 Apr 82, p. J3)

Nigeria

Investment in Education

(Excerpt) In the course of the fourth 5-year plan that will conclude in 1985, the government of Nigeria intends to spend more than \$2 billion on the needs of education. (3 Apr 82, p. 4)

International Parliamentary Union

(Excerpt) The spring meeting of the International Parliamentary Union continued in the Nigerian capital attended by representatives from 77 states. (16 Apr 82, p. 1)

International Parliamentary Union

(Excerpt) The International Parliamentary Union concluded work at its spring meeting in Lagos. In addition to condemning Israel's annexation of the Golan

Heights, the participants passed a resolution against the Republic of South Africa for passing death sentences against African National Congress members. (19 Apr 82, p. 4)

Economic Crisis

(Text) S. Shagari, the President of Nigeria, asked the National Assembly for extraordinary powers to overcome the economic crisis enveloping the country. (21 Apr 82, p. 1)

Republic of South Africa

Changes in Terms of Service

(Excerpt) The South African Parliament is considering measures that would maintain the 12-year term for reservists yet double to 720 days the mobilization obligation for all white males between the ages of 17 and 60. As a result of these changes, the South African Army could increase to a record size of 800,000 men. (25 Mar 82, p. 5)

Military Operations

(Excerpt) The racist Republic of South Africa is preparing a military strike against the southern Angolan port of Mocamedes according to a spokesman of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola (FAPLA) in Brussels at a meeting of the International Committee Against Apartheid, Racism, and Colonialism in Southern Africa. (6 Apr 82, p. 5)

Apartheid Justice

(Excerpt) The Supreme Court of the Republic of South Africa has affirmed the death sentence passed earlier on the basis of the fabricated guilty verdict found against three members of the African National Congress (ANC). (10 Apr 82, p. 5)

ANC Death Sentences

(Excerpt) The UN Security Council is meeting to consider a resolution made by a number of African states that calls for the authorities in South Africa to strike down the death sentences against African National Congress members. (11 Apr 82, p. 4)

Colonialism



(12 Apr 82, p. 5)

Mine Disasters

(Text) Two disasters, killing 9 and injuring 27 others, occurred in mines in the Republic of South Africa on 14 Apr. (16 Apr 82, p. 1)

Senegal

Diplomatic Relations Celebrated

(Text) Enormous public interest was displayed in Dakar, Sengal during the month of Soviet-Senegalese friendship commemorating the 20th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Republic of Senegal. (6 Apr 82, p. 1)

Humanitarian Aid

[See entry under Soviet Interest in Africa.]

Sudan

New Soviet Ambassador

(Excerpt) The Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet has appointed Comrade Boris S. Vorobyev as Soviet Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Sudan. (24 Mar 82, p. 6, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #075, 19 Apr 82, p. H6)

Uganda

Western-Inspired Terrorism

(Excerpt) Western imperialist circles are increasing their intrigues against independent Uganda in an attempt to destabilize the situation in the country. One of the foreign reactionaries' tools is the so-called Movement for Uganda's Freedom whose headquarters are in London. One of its leaders is ex-President G. Binaisa. (26 Apr 82, p. 5, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #070, 12 Apr 82, p. J5)

Zimbabwe

Cultural Festival

(Excerpt) The first national cultural festival of the Republic of Zimbabwe that was highlighted by dance and tribal folklore ensembles came to a close. (24 Mar 82, p. 1)

Name of Capital Changed

(Excerpt) In commemoration of the second anniversary of Zimbabwe's liberation from British colonial sovereignty, the name of its capital has been changed from Salisbury to Harare. (19 Apr 82, p. 1)